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Contact: Ed Maddox 213-361-6980
James Bolden 213-200-5314

BOARD APPROVES SUPERVISORS RIDLEY-THOMAS AND KNABE REQUEST FOR SUBMITTAL OF HARBOR GATEWAY COMMUNITIES ENTERPRISE ZONE APPLICATION

LOS ANGELES – Highlighting a priority to fill the vacancies of two expiring statewide Enterprise Zones to help stimulate economic growth in economically distressed areas of California, Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas and Don Knabe today urged the Board to authorize the submission of a joint application for the Harbor Gateway area to include the cities of Los Angeles and Huntington Park.

The Enterprise Zone Program is a 15-year designation that seeks to generate new private-sector investment and growth through the award of state tax credits and incentives. On April 15, the State Department of Housing and Community Development issued a request for applications to fill the two expiring statewide Enterprise Zones designations. The deadline for the applications is September 15.

The Board authorized the County's of L.A.'s Community Development Commission (CDC) to act as an agent of the County to coordinate with Los Angeles and Huntington Park in the preparation of a multi-jurisdictional Enterprise Zone application, to be called the "Harbor Gateway Communities Enterprise Zone."

The proposed Harbor Gateway Communities Enterprise Zone will cover approximately 3,670 acres of commercial and industrial land in unincorporated Walnut Park, Florence-Firestone, Willowbrook, and Rancho Dominguez.

“Because of the small number of available Enterprise Zone openings for the entire State, a cooperative effort among the County and the cities of Los Angeles and Huntington Park makes for a stronger application,” Supervisor Ridley-Thomas said.

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